



PROGRESS REPORT NO. 78

TO: Dr. Laura Buelow – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - via Email
Matt Wilkening – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - via Email

FROM: Marko Adzic – Teck American Incorporated (TAI)

DATE: January 10, 2013

FILE NO: 01-773180-000

RE: Upper Columbia River (UCR) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
(RI/FS) - Progress Report No. 78 Month Ending December 2012

Pursuant to Paragraph 39 of the June 2, 2006 Settlement Agreement (Agreement), the following is intended to provide a summary of activities completed during the past month in compliance with the aforementioned Agreement. It is also intended to provide a brief summary of pending and on-going activities.

EPA and TAI have reached resolution on final language associated with the September 2012 dispute. It is anticipated that a revised quality assurance project plan for the Phase 2 Sediment Study will be submitted for review and approval within the very near future.

The draft final fish tissue data summary report (April 2012) was revised based on comments received on the 26th of November, and submitted for review and approval on the 27th of December 2012. Similarly, a draft data summary report for white sturgeon sediment toxicity testing was submitted for review on December 27, 2012.

The U.S. Geological Survey submitted a draft report for work completed under the June 21, 2010 “Upper Columbia River Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study: Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for an evaluation of the acute or chronic toxicity of individual chemicals of interest to white sturgeon (*Acipenser transmontanus*) and rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) in water-only exposures” prepared for EPA. TAI is presently working towards providing comments on the draft report to EPA in February 2013. Consistent with the QAPP (June 2010), it is anticipated that upon receiving comments from EPA, TAI, and the participating parties, the USGS “will then conduct a peer review of the revised draft final report”.

TAI received a level of effort for the Bossburg Flats Area. At this time, additional information is needed (e.g., electronic data files) before the information can be thoroughly considered and evaluated.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 509-623-4585.